

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (original): A method to provide a resource adapter that collaborates with an application server to provide services offered by an enterprise information system (EIS), comprising:

packaging a deployment descriptor into the resource adapter; and
deploying the resource adapter into a target operational environment based on properties defined in the deployment descriptor.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The method of claim 12, wherein ~~the method~~ ~~operation of~~ deploying the resource adapter into a target operational environment based on properties defined in the deployment descriptor includes,

configuring the resource adapter in the target operational environment to create a connection to an instance of the EIS.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The method of claim 12, wherein ~~the method~~ ~~operation of~~ deploying the resource adapter into a target operational environment based on properties defined in the deployment descriptor includes,

configuring application server mechanisms for transaction management.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The method of claim 12, wherein ~~the method~~
~~operation of~~ deploying the resource adapter into a target operational environment based on
properties defined in the deployment descriptor includes,
configuring security in the target operational environment.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The method of claim 12, wherein ~~the method~~
~~operation of~~ packaging includes,
packaging interfaces, implementation classes, utility classes, native libraries, and
descriptive meta information into the resource adapter.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 12, wherein the target operational
environment is selected from the group consisting of an application server and a Java 2
Platform, Enterprise Edition (J2EE) application.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A system to provide a resource adapter that
collaborates with an application server to provide services offered by an enterprise
information system (EIS), comprising:

a connector provider to create the resource adapter, the connector provider specifying
a deployment descriptor in the resource adapter; and
a deployer to deploy the resource adapter into a target operational environment based
on properties defined in the deployment descriptor.

Claim 19 (original): The system of claim 18, wherein the deployment descriptor
includes a connector, the connector enabling connections to the EIS.

Claim 20 (original): The system of claim 18, wherein the deployment descriptor includes connector contracts between the connector provider and the deployer.

Claim 21 (original): The system of claim 18, wherein the deployment descriptor includes declarative information enabling the deployer to deploy the resource adapter into the target operational environment.

Claim 22 (original): The system of claim 18, wherein the resource adapter includes interfaces, implementation classes, utility classes, native libraries, and descriptive meta information.